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UNCLAS MUSCAT 001703

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/ARPI, NEA/PPD, NEA/P, INR/R/MR

LONDON FOR TSOU

PARIS FOR ZEYA

USCENTCOM FOR PLUSH

FOREIGN PRESS CENTER FOR SILAS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KPAO](#) [KMDR](#) [OIIP](#) [MU](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: AMMAN BOMBINGS, ARAB LEAGUE EFFORTS, AND ORGAN DONATIONS

REF: MUSCAT 1681

Terror In Jordan

1. The government-owned Arabic daily "Oman" featured an editorial on November 11 under the headline "Terrorism Strikes Again" [Note: as reported reftel, the Omani government issued a strong condemnation of the terrorist bombings on November 9. End note.]:

"Terrorism has struck again - this time in three Amman hotels. These tragic bombings do not have any relation whatsoever to the teachings of Islam, or to human principles in general. They are simply random criminal acts that have no meaning. Such phenomena are unfortunate realities that threaten peace and stability in the world... The existence of clashes in the region has created a good environment for terrorist groups, along with a confusion of ideologies... The Amman bombings are shameful acts, and the whole world should take harsh measures to prevent such occurrences in the future."

A League Of Their Own

2. "Oman" also ran an editorial on November 10 entitled "Iraq And The Arab League":

"Despite the current environment in Iraq, where violence prevails, the Arab League has been exerting a great deal of effort to find a compromise between the various Iraqi factions. Through summits organized in Cairo and Baghdad, the Arab League continues to look for peace. Now, strong international support is needed to rebuild Iraq after the illegal invasion by the United States. Arabs will persist in their determination to encourage the Iraqi powerbrokers to participate in a compromise, and to save what can be saved."

Seeds Of Peace

3. "Al-Watan," a privately owned Arabic daily, published an editorial on November 8 entitled "Messages of Peace In Return For Messages of War":

"Even when faced with the painful situation of losing a child, the Palestinians continue to send messages of peace to Israel in response to Tel Aviv's messages of war. The noble act of a Palestinian father who donated the organs of his son - shot by an Israeli soldier simply because he was playing with a toy gun - to Israeli children illustrates the incredible levels of sacrifice and forgiveness on the part of the Palestinians, while highlighting Israeli violence and hatred. In this way, a violent initiative was met with a human response. We hope that implanting the organs of the young Palestinian victim will also implant the seeds of peace into the bodies of the Israeli beneficiaries."

BALTIMORE